The meeting began at 6:07 p.m.

Saco Mayor Michaud and Biddeford Mayor Casavant both welcomed the Biddeford and Saco Councils and offered opening comments. Both encouraged open dialogue and the sharing of ideas.

Tobey McGrath of Drummond Woodsum – Strategic Consulting, LLC was introduced as the evening’s moderator. Mr. McGrath gave a brief background of his career.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Alan Casavant and Mayor Roland Michaud

**Biddeford Councilors:** Michael Swanton, John McCurry, Jr., Stephen St. Cyr, Robert Quattrone, Jr., Bob Mills, Rick Laverriere, Michael Ready, Laura Seaver, Marc Lessard

**Saco Councilors:** David Precourt, Roger Gay, William Doyle, Kevin Roche, Alan Minthorn, Eric Cote [Nathan Johnston was excused]

The goal of this evening, according to Tobey McGrath, is for each City Official to learn something about their colleagues and about both Biddeford and Saco that they may not have already known.

Some ground rules were laid out:
- No devices (cell phones, iPads, etc)
- Respect time limits, as set out by the moderator
- Relax and have fun
- Be open-minded
- Respectful of each other and their ideas
- Think outside the box
- Focus on collaboration

The City Officials then went through a couple of different exercises, keeping in mind the goal of getting to know, respect and trust each other. Each Official shared something about where they live or had lived previously, and what they like(d) and/or admire(d) about that place. The strongest impressions that came out of this exercise were family, community, coastal/rural living and having the support and care of fellow citizens.

The City Officials then broke into two groups – one made up of Biddeford Officials and one made up of Saco Officials. Each group was tasked with coming up with four different things:
1. One thing the group admires about Biddeford
2. One thing the group admires about Saco
3. One potential opportunity for Biddeford
4. One potential opportunity for Saco

The Officials then got back together and shared their ideas.

**Biddeford Positives (as identified by Biddeford Council):**
- Beaches/Ocean/Sand
- Mills
- Local Businesses
- Schools
- Sports
- Library
- Tradition
- Hospital
- UNE
- Industrial
- Airport
- Neighborhoods
- Restaurants
- Timber Point
- Parks
- River/Harbor head
- Rich History
- Dedicated Department Heads

**Biddeford Positives (as identified by Saco Council):**

- Vibrant Downtown
- Schools
- Biddeford Crossing
- Biddeford Pool
- Mill Campus
- Ice rinks/YMCA
- Multiple industrial parks
- Restaurants
- Unique small businesses
- Timber Point
- Rotary Park
- Eastern Trail
- Theatre
- UNE
- Heart of Biddeford
- SMHC
- La Kermesse
Saco Positives (as identified by Biddeford Council):

- Beaches/Ocean
- State Park
- Downtown
- Thornton Academy
- Frugal
- Roads
- Mill (Building 4?)
- Train Station
- Auto Mile
- Industrial Park
- Cinemagic
- Community Pride
- Library/Museum
- Funtown
- Camp Ellis
- River
- Diverse

Saco Positives (as identified by Saco Council):

- Saco River Fishing
- Downtown
- Schools
- Beachfront
- Innovative Zoning
- Parks and Recreation Program
- Historic Drive-In
- Industrial Parks
- Ferry Beach State Park
- Eastern Trail
- Tourist Attractions
- Recreation Opportunities
- Laurel Hill
- Trails
- Sense of Community
- Thornton Academy
- Wardwell
- Historic City Hall
- Train Station
**Biddeford Opportunities (as identified by Biddeford Council):**

- Downtown
- Growth
- Three binder center (internet)
- State wise buzz
- Taking advantage of good work ethic
- Real jobs
- UNE
- Geo Location
- Collaboration with Saco
- Optimism
- 3 Lincoln Street
- Industrial Parks
- Volunteers (HOB, DDC)
- Dredging

**Biddeford Opportunities (as identified by Saco Council):**

- Parking
- Traffic Flow
- Open Downtown
- La Kermesse
- Interstate Exchange
- City Hall
- More business/Better business
- entry level jobs
- Housing

**Saco Opportunities (as identified by Biddeford Council):**

- Collaboration
- Projects on Saco Island
- Downtown
- Business Growth
- Outer Route 1 development
- Historical Preservation
- Dredging
- Joint Art Walk

**Saco Opportunities (as identified by Saco Council):**

- Saco Island
- Industrial Parks
- Ferry Beach State Park
- Opportunities for youth to stay
- Destination/Recreation/Location
- Unstructured Recreation Areas
- More Collaborative Events (River Jam, Block Parties)
- More Nightlife/food/entertainment
- Creative opportunities
- Traffic

**Collaboration Efforts:**

- Integrated Department Leadership
- Unified Traffic Planning
- Downtown Parking (both communities)
- Unify PNP’s, Zoning, Finances
- Joint Collaborative Contracts
- Joint Department Meetings
- Structure Efficiency (Departments)
- Synchronize Street Lights (Traffic and Parking Coordination, State Consider one community, more communication on projects)
- Marketing jointly/Coordinate events
- Create achievable joint planning
- Assume good will with all we do
- Downtown trolley

- 1 Harbor Master
- Collaboration (FD)
- Common Codes
- Collaborative Marketing
- Grant Writing
- Dispatch Technology
- Quasi-Governmental IT (enterprise organization)
- Bulk purchases
- Common finance department
- Collaborating joint administration (schools)

The meeting wrapped up at 8:02 p.m.